A3620-1

NEWS

NMTBA
The Association For
Manufacturing Technology

FOR RELEASE: May 28, 1990

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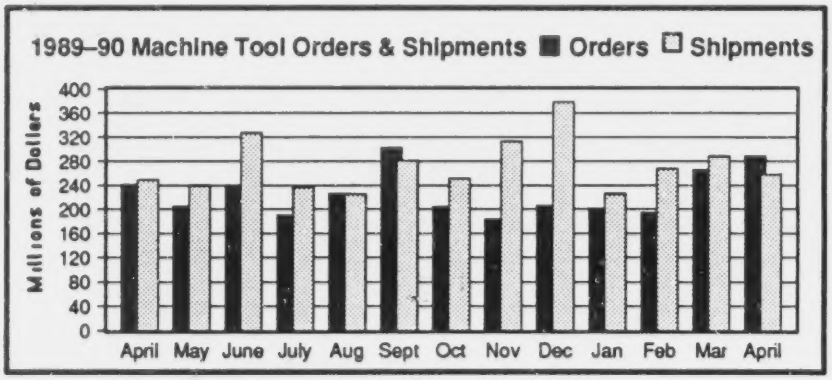
Machine tool orders continue to rise

April machine tool orders reached $289.45 million, 8.9% above the March total of $265.85 million, according to figures released today by NMTBA – The Association For Manufacturing Technology. Year–to–date machine tool orders stand at $951.15 million, down 9.1% compared to 1989's $1,045.85 million. April 1990 machine tool orders were 19.3% higher than the total for April 1989.



Machine tool shipments in April totaled $258.20 million, down 10.6% from the $288.90 million posted in March. Year–to–date shipments reached $1,041.45 million, 11.1% higher than the 1989 figure of $937.20 million. Compared to April a year ago, April 1990 shipments are up 3.5%.

The machine tool order backlog for April 1990 was $1,713.28 million, up from $1,682.03 million in March. The April 1989 backlog was $2,299.90 million.

NMTBA president Albert W. Moore said, "For the second consecutive month, we see domestic machine tool orders up, a positive sign for U.S. manufacturing. Most analysts had predicted the U.S. economy would be slow until the latter half of 1990, but recession fears have

(more)

subsided. The latest U.S. government report on capital spending plans has been revised upward for several industries. The writing is on the wall, to stay competitive U.S. manufacturers must invest in the most modern equipment that they can afford."

April orders for metal cutting machine tools totaled $206.85 million, up 4.4% from March's total of $198.20 million. Orders for metal forming equipment rose 22.1%, going from $67.65 million in March to $82.60 million in April. Year–to–date metal cutting orders of $662.50 million are down 12.3% compared to 1989's $755.35 million. Year–to–date metal forming figures are almost level with 1989, standing at $288.65 million, a scant 0.6% below the 1989 figure of $290.50 million. Comparing orders for April 1990 to April 1989, metal cutting is up 35.4%, while metal forming is down 8.0%.

Metal cutting shipments in April were $169.05 million, down 21.1% from the March figure of $214.15 million. Metal forming shipments in April rose to $89.15 million, 19.3% above the $74.75 million tallied in the previous month. Year–to–date metal cutting shipments stand at $714.90 million, 7.4% above 1989's $665.60 million. Year–to–date metal forming shipments reached $326.55 million, 20.2% above the 1989 figure of $271.60 million. Comparing this April with April a year ago, metal cutting shipments are down 8.1% while metal forming shipments are up 36.1%.

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COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
APR 1990	187.65	19.20	206.85	77.25	5.35	82.60	264.90	24.55	289.45
MAR 1990	132.60	65.60	198.20	56.95	10.70	67.65	189.55	76.30	265.85
% CHANGE									
APR 1990:MAR 1990	+41.5	-70.7	+4.4	+35.6	-50.0	+22.1	+39.8	-67.8	+8.9
APR 1989	138.50	14.30	152.80	76.40	13.35	89.75	214.90	27.65	242.55
% CHANGE									
APR 1990:APR 1989	+35.5	+34.3	+35.4	+1.1	-59.9	-8.0	+23.3	-11.2	+19.3
YEAR TO DATE 1990	538.40	124.10	662.50	232.40	56.25	288.65	770.80	180.35	951.15
YEAR TO DATE 1989	675.40	79.95	755.35	248.25	42.25	290.50	923.65	122.20	1,045.85
% CHANGE									
1990 : 1989	-20.3	+55.2	-12.3	-6.4	+33.1	-0.6	-16.5	+47.6	-9.1

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
APR 1990	141.75	27.30	169.05	76.70	12.45	89.15	218.45	39.75	258.20
MAR 1990	179.80	34.35	214.15	66.45	8.30	74.75	246.25	42.65	288.90
% CHANGE									
APR 1990:MAR 1990	-21.2	-20.5	-21.1	+15.4	+50.0	+19.3	-11.3	-6.8	-10.6
APR 1989	168.35	15.70	184.05	58.80	6.70	65.50	227.15	22.40	249.55
% CHANGE									
APR 1990:APR 1989	-15.8	+73.9	-8.1	+30.4	+85.8	+36.1	-3.8	+77.5	+3.5
YEAR TO DATE 1990	608.55	106.35	714.90	288.50	38.05	326.55	897.05	144.40	1,041.45
YEAR TO DATE 1989	599.00	66.60	665.60	234.40	37.20	271.60	833.40	103.80	937.20
% CHANGE									
1990 : 1989	+1.6	+59.7	+7.4	+23.1	+2.3	+20.2	+7.6	+39.1	+11.1

Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1989	$2,441.85	$ 366.10	$2,807.95	$1,803.58	$2,763.35	$ 432.25	$3,195.60
1990							
JAN	$ 159.20	$ 42.10	$ 201.30	$1,778.53	$ 199.05	$ 27.30	$ 226.35
FEB	$ 157.15	$ 37.40	$ 194.55	$1,705.08	$ 233.30	$ 34.70	$ 268.00
MAR	$ 189.55	$ 76.30	$ 265.85	$1,682.03	$ 246.25	$ 42.65	$ 288.90
APR (P)	$ 264.90	$ 24.55	$ 289.45	$1,713.28	$ 218.45	$ 39.75	$ 258.20
4 MONTHS	$ 770.80	$ 180.35	$ 951.15		$ 897.05	$ 144.40	$1,041.45

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1989	$2,581.50	$ 405.20	$2,986.70	$ 139.65	$ 39.10	$ 178.75
1990						
JAN	$ 162.30	$ 44.05	$ 206.35	$ 3.10	$ 1.95	$ 5.05
FEB	$ 162.30	$ 38.30	$ 200.60	$ 5.15	$ .90	$ 6.05
MAR	$ 204.10	$ 79.95	$ 284.05	$ 14.55	$ 3.65	$ 18.20
APR (P)	$ 274.65	$ 24.70	$ 299.35	$ 9.75	$ .15	$ 9.90
4 MONTHS	$ 803.35	$ 187.00	$ 990.35	$ 32.55	$ 6.65	$ 39.20

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1989	$1,722.80	$ 253.55	$1,976.35	$1,423.29	$2,059.20	$ 299.40	$2,358.60
1990							
JAN	$ 117.70	$ 23.45	$ 141.15	$1,402.24	$ 143.40	$ 18.80	$ 162.20
FEB	$ 100.45	$ 15.85	$ 116.30	$1,349.04	$ 143.60	$ 25.90	$ 169.50
MAR	$ 132.60	$ 65.60	$ 198.20	$1,333.09	$ 179.80	$ 34.35	$ 214.15
APR (P)	$ 187.65	$ 19.20	$ 206.85	$1,370.89	$ 141.75	$ 27.30	$ 169.05
4 MONTHS	$ 538.40	$ 124.10	$ 662.50		$ 608.55	$ 106.35	$ 714.90

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1989	$1,837.80	$ 281.65	$2,119.45	$ 115.00	$ 28.10	$ 143.10
1990						
JAN	$ 120.35	$ 25.15	$ 145.50	$ 2.65	$ 1.70	$ 4.35
FEB	$ 102.20	$ 16.70	$ 118.90	$ 1.75	$ .85	$ 2.60
MAR	$ 146.80	$ 69.20	$ 216.00	$ 14.20	$ 3.60	$ 17.80
APR (P)	$ 195.25	$ 19.30	$ 214.55	$ 7.60	$ .10	$ 7.70
4 MONTHS	$ 564.60	$ 130.35	$ 694.95	$ 26.20	$ 6.25	$ 32.45

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1989	$ 719.05	$ 112.55	$ 831.60	$ 380.29	$ 704.15	$ 132.85	$ 837.00
1990							
JAN	$ 41.50	$ 18.65	$ 60.15	$ 376.29	$ 55.65	$ 8.50	$ 64.15
FEB	$ 56.70	$ 21.55	$ 78.25	$ 356.04	$ 89.70	$ 8.80	$ 98.50
MAR	$ 56.95	$ 10.70	$ 67.65	$ 348.94	$ 66.45	$ 8.30	$ 74.75
APR (P)	$ 77.25	$ 5.35	$ 82.60	$ 342.39	$ 76.70	$ 12.45	$ 89.15
4 MONTHS	$ 232.40	$ 56.25	$ 288.65		$ 288.50	$ 38.05	$ 326.55

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1989	$ 743.70	$ 123.55	$ 867.25	$ 24.65	$ 11.00	$ 35.65
1990						
JAN	$ 41.95	$ 18.90	$ 60.85	$ .45	$ .25	$ .70
FEB	$ 60.10	$ 21.60	$ 81.70	$ 3.40	$ .05	$ 3.45
MAR	$ 57.30	$ 10.75	$ 68.05	$ .35	$ .05	$ .40
APR (P)	$ 79.40	$ 5.40	$ 84.80	$ 2.15	$ .05	$ 2.20
4 MONTHS	$ 238.75	$ 56.65	$ 295.40	$ 6.35	$ .40	$ 6.75

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology